●141

[For comparative Anthropometry of Southwestern Asia see H Field, MAI Iran, category 116, pp. 436-489.]

36: Kappers D-6 (1929-30) 1932 MI Middle East
CHERKESS NH 6
KURD MA 11

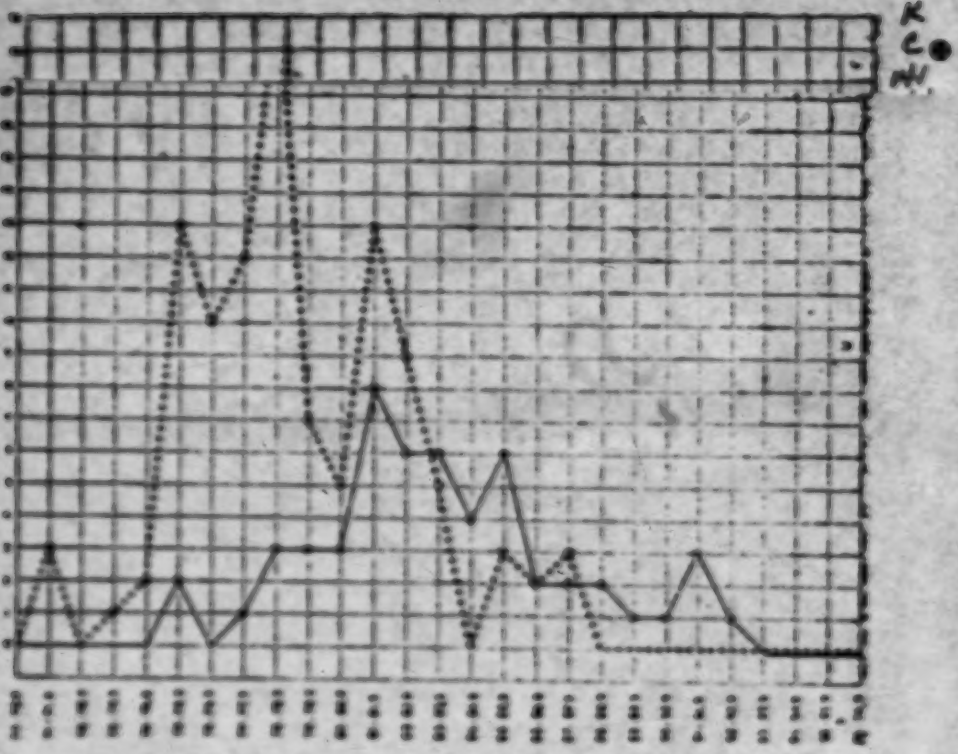

Fig. 14. Continuous line: frequency curve of 54 Caucasians superposed on the frequency curve (crossed line) of 106 Kurds.

If we consider my frequency curve of the Kurds (which is identical to Chantre's curve of 332 Kurds), it immediately appears that this is a mixed people, the majority of which is mesocephalic, to which a good deal of sub-brachycephalics is added (fig. 14).

Here the question arises to which race belong the mesocephalics, and to which the subbrachycephalics among the present Kurds?) For this we have to study the present races living near Kurdistan in the Western Caucasus, the Tschetschenzes, Mingrels, Georgians, Ossetes, all of which belong to the subbrachycephalic Caucasian race. These are studied by *Kraussloff*, Chantre, von *Eickstedt* and myself.

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1) It should be emphasized that the Armenoid hyperbrachycephalics are very rare among the Kurds, as clearly results from Chantre's and my measurements (still unfavourable). Both of us found only 8% of the Kurds having an index higher than 85.0.

26: Kappers D-5 (1929-30) 1932 MI Middle East
IRAN MA I
KURD MA II

I K 141 144

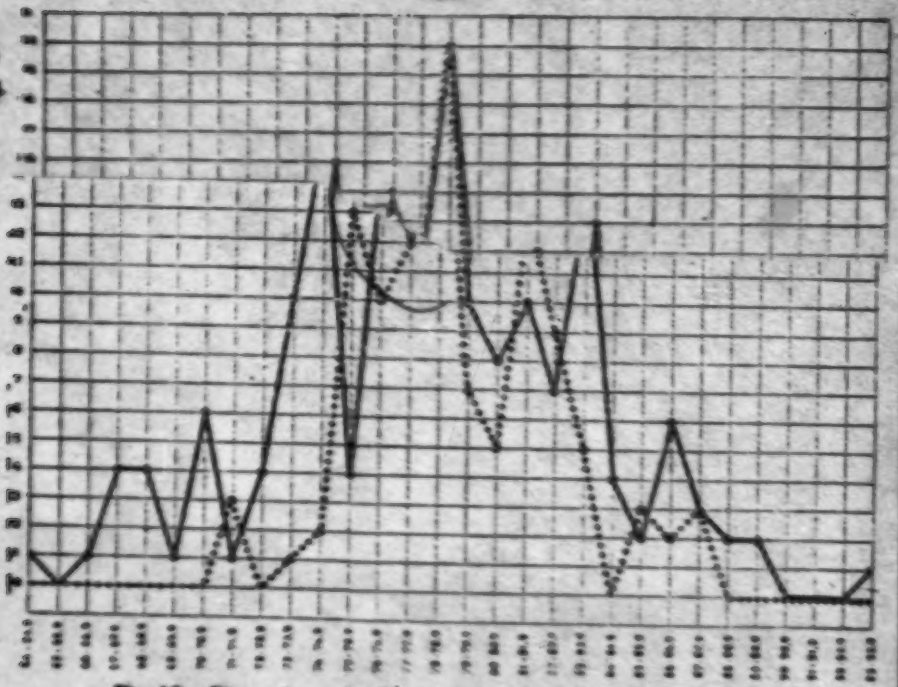

Fig. 15. Big continuous line: Persian indices (male and female together[1]); crossed line: Kurdish indices.

Personally I measured 54 Turkestanen and putting their frequency curve in that of the Kurds, it appears that the Caucasian curve coincides with the additional group in the Kurds and that most likely the present Kurds are an Iranian mesocephalic race, mixed with what is called the "brachycraph Caucasian race."

The mesocephalic Kurd—although their cephalic index is only slightly higher than that of the Achaia Arabs—no doubt are closely related to the Iranians in Persia, whose index peak coincides exactly with that of the mesocephalic Kurds (see the superposed Kurdish and Persian curves in fig. 15). These 78 index Iranians live in North Persia, where they seem to form a large part of the population.

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1) The purely male curve was so identical with the mixed male and female curve that I preferred to take the latter.

SS: Kappers D-5 (ca. 1933) 1934 M1 Middle East M1
KURD MAN

CHAPTER V.

Persia: Kurds, Circassians, Guebers and Turkomans.

The name Persia only indicates a geographical territory. If, and in how far, it is possible to disentangle the anthropology of its inhabitants will be discussed below.

For this purpose a study of the first-mentioned races may precede. According to SPEISER[1]) the Kurds are the descendants of the ancient Guti or Qurti. At the present time most of the Kurds live in Kurdistan, a territory belonging partly to Persia, partly to Turkey, lying approximately between 35° and 40° N. lat., including the Ararat slopes and extending west to the Antitaurus in Central Turkey, and east to Hamadan in Persia (i.e. approximately between 37° and 47° E. long.). Besides, a large Kurdish colony, originating from S.E. Turkey (the Kommagene, Diarbekr and Mardin) has settled in Damascus. It is this colony that I examined with Mr. MIRZO, a student of the American University of Beirut and a Kurd himself, to whom I wish to express my thanks for his help.

The literature concerning the Kurds is somewhat contradictory, as appears from the data concerning their cephalic index.

POLAK[2]) describes them as a Nordic race. DUHOUSSET[3]), who measured five Kurds, found them to be brachycephalic (86.2).

CHANTRE[4]) who examined 332 Kurds (272 males and 60 females) from Kurdistan and Caucasia, found an average index of 78.53 (with variations from 70.04 to 86.4) for the males. A similar male average (78.48) was found by NASSONOW[5]) with

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[1]) SPEISER. (Mesopotamian origins) supposes the Qurti or Guti to belong to the Proto-Zagrian or Hurrian brachycephalic race. Although with 48 Kurds measured at Mosul the KEESCHNERS found the prevailing index to be 84—85, the great majority of the present Kurds are mesocephalic.

[2]) POLAK. Persien. Das Land und seine Bewohner. Brockhaus. Leipzig. 1865. p. 18.

[3]) DUHOUSSET. Etudes sur les populations de la Perse. Paris 1863. Quoted from KHANIKOFF. The original not being at my disposal, I cannot say where the Kurds measured by DUHOUSSET lived.

[4]) CHANTRE. Recherches anthrop. en Asie occident. Arch d. Musée d'Hist. nat. de Lyon. Tome IV. 1895. See also CHANTRE: Aperçu sur les charactères ethniques des Assyriés et des Kurdes. Bull. Soc. d'Anthrop. de Lyon. Tome I. 1881—1882. p. 165 and CHANTRE: Rapport sur une mission scientifique dans l'Asie occidentale et spécialement dans les régions de l'Ararat et du Caucase. Arch. des missions scientifiques et littéraires. 3ème série. Tome X. 1883. In this paper (p. 40) CHANTRE emphasizes the variations in the Kurdish index, according to the people amongst whom they live. I am greatly indebted to Dr. CLAUDE GAILLARD of the Museum des Sciences Naturelles de Lyon for the loan of these valuable papers.

[5]) NASSONOW. Table of Kurdish measurements. Reports of the Anthropol. Soc. of Moscow 1890. Résumé in the Arch. f. Anthropologie. Bnd. 24. 1897. p. 646.

55: Kappers D-5 (ca. 1933) 1934 M1 Middle East M1
KURD MAN

K 141 M 44x

25 Kurds from Transcaucasia (Airiga) and by DANILOW with 19 Kurds from Persia (77.68). IWANOWSKY [2]) also gave them an average l. w. index of 77.6.

VON LUSCHAN [3]) also stated a prevailing mesocephaly. With 115 adult males from Karakush he found an index varying from 71.3 to 78.5; with 28 females from Nemrud Dagh 72.3—78.3, and in Sendshirli the Kurdish index varied from 74.4—80.9. Whereas these authors, except DUHOUSSET, agree in giving the Kurds an average mesocephalic index, PITTARD [3]) gives them an index of 86.69. The Kurds he measured lived, however, in the Dobroudscha which is no Kurdish country at all, so that these Kurds were probably with 5 Kurds from Batoum (88.1) and 5 Kurds from Lake Urmiah (86.68). CHANTRE

In Damascus only 9 of the 106 Kurds I measured had an index higher than 84.

CHANTRE (1895) is the only author who expressed all his Kurdish [4]) indices in a frequency curve. In fig. 37 I give the separate curves of his male and female indices. In fig. 39 my own male Kurdish indices are arranged. Evidently our results agree.

In CHANTRE's Kurdish curve as well as in mine the highest peak is found at 78, but in both curves there is a large group, following on this typical top, between 81 and 83.9 (81—84 in CHANTRE's curve). We further agree that an index figure higher than 84 is an exception with this people [5]).

While the most typical top is at 78—78.9 in both curves, the character of the additional higher index group is more pronounced in my curve than in CHANTRE's the additional elevation in my curve lying between 81 and 82.9. As all the individuals registered in my curve were males, this extra top cannot be due to sexual difference.

It is evident that both curves — CHANTRE's as well as mine — indicate the presence of another race mixed with the Kurds, a subbrachycephalic race with an index varying in CHANTRE's curve between 80 and 84, in my curve chiefly between 81 and 82.9.

The index of this additional race suggests that the Kurds are mixed with the Western Caucasians [6]), GIUFFRIDA RUGGERI's [7]) Homo indo-europeaus brachymorphus, HADDON's Homo Georgianus [8]).

This Georgian (or Kartvelian) race is split up in various groups, but

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[1]) Quoted by R. MARTIN: Lehrbuch der Anthropologie. 1st Edition. p. 672.

[2]) VON LUSCHAN. Völker, Rassen, Sprachen. Berlin, 1923. p. 91.

[3]) PITTARD. Les peuples sporadiques de la Dobrodja III. Contribution à l'étude anthropologique des Kurdes. Bull. de la Soc. roumaine des Sciences. Bucarest 1911. Annul XX. p. 33.

[4]) For Kurdish tribal names see MARK SYKES. The Kurdish tribes of the Ottoman empire. Journ. of the Roy. Anthrop. Institute Vol. 37. 1908 (no anthropological data).

[5]) The highest index was found by CHANTRE with the Bilikani Kurds, that live near Erivan, an Armenian centre.

[6]) In the Eastern Caucasus with the Tschetschenzes and Lesghians (see fig. 17) a higher index occurs (VON ERCKERT).

[7]) GIUFFRIDA RUGGERI. Schema di classificazione degli Hominidae attuali. Arch. per l'Anthrop. e. l'Etnol. Vol. 42. 1912. p. 136.

[8]) HADDON. The races of man. Cambridge Univ. Press. 1924. p. 86.

55: Kappers D-5 (ca. 1933) 1934 M1 Middle East M1
KURD MAN

with all of them indices between 81 and 84 prevail. So with 17 Ossetes CHANTRE[1]) found an average index of 83.1; with 12 Georgian Mingreliana 83.2

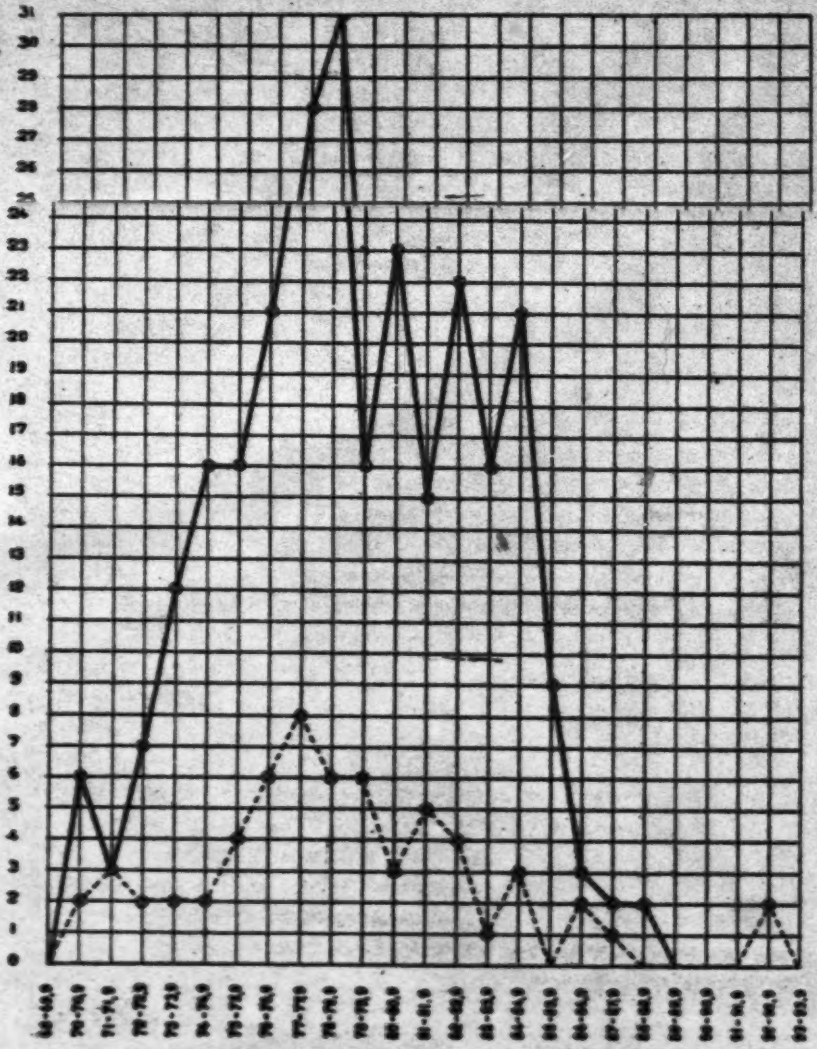

Fig. 37. Continuous line: cephalic indices of 272 male Kurds, dotted line of 60 female Kurds, measured in the Caucasus by CHANTRE.

[1]) CHANTRE. Mission scientifique dans l'Asie occidentale et spécialement dans les régions de l'Ararat et du Caucase (l.c. p. 49 and 50).

58: Kappers D-5 (ca. 1923) 1924 M1 Middle East M1
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CHERKESS. RH5

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83.2. Similar indices prevail with the Circassians or Tscherkesses of which I measured 54 adult males.

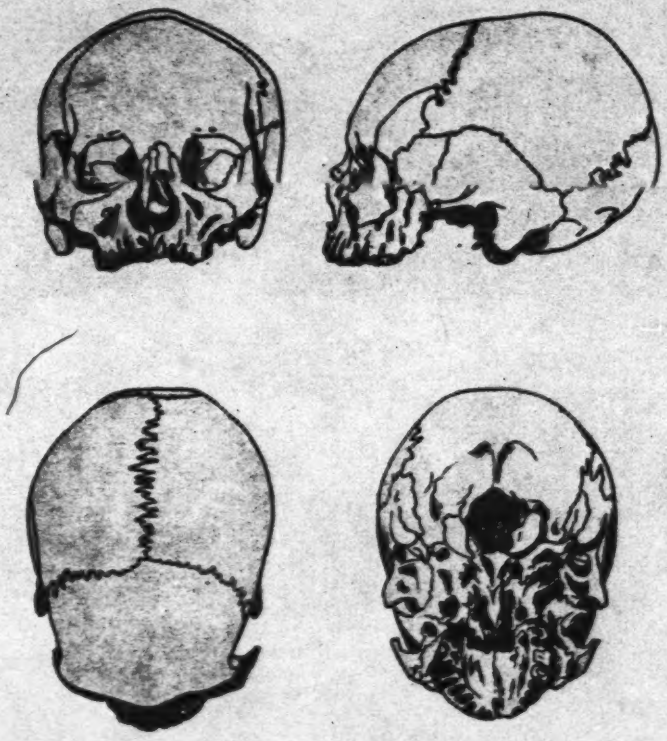

Fig. 38. Male Kurdish skull after CHANTRE (L. Br. ind. 77.3; L. H. ind. 74.02; Br. H. ind. 95.71).

Fig. 38a. Skull of a Circassian woman 18 years old, in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences Philadelphia (founded 1812) L. Br. ind. 79.24. . L. H. ind. 61.3, Br. H. ind. = 77.5.

K 141 M 144 C 141

Excluding some whose index (87 or more[1])) was apparently influenced by mixed marriages the average measurements and indices are:

Group	length	breadth	height	l. br. i.	br. h. i.	l. h. i.
Male Circassians	18.83	15.45	13.07	82.05	14.6	69.41

A similar average l. br. index (slightly lower) is found with the 30 Circassians registered by VON ERCKERT (inserted in the curve fig. 39).

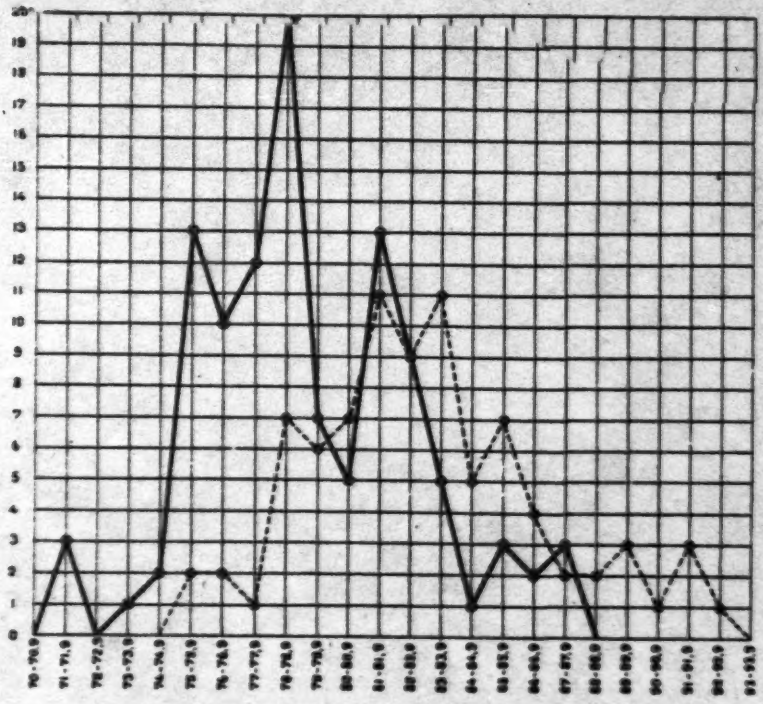

Fig. 39. Continuous curve: cephalic indices of 106 male Kurds measured at Damascus by the author. Dotted curve: cephalic indices of 84 male Circassians 30 measured in the Caucasus by VON ERCKERT, 54 by the author in Syria and in Constantinople.

The curve of all my Circassians and those measured by VON ERCKERT superposed on my Kurdish frequency curve, shows that the greatest

[1]) I found these high indices only with ten men of the Circassian colony at Jeni-Chehr near Aleppo and suspect Turkish admixture.

frequency of the index with the Circassians coincides with the additional group in the Kurdish curves and makes it probable that the present Kurds contain a large admixture of this or of an other related subbrachycephalic Caucasian race. This may explain the controversies in literature concerning the l. br. index of the Kurds, whose original stock — as was rightly pointed out by CHANTRE and by VON LUSCHAN — has to be considered as a mesocephalic race. They usually have dark hair and brown eyes.

The Circassians (or Tscherkesses), however, belonging to the subbrachycephalic Caucasian race, frequently have fair hair and blue eyes, two features also more often found with my subbrachycephalic "Kurds".

Approaching with these data the anthropology of Persia, I may start by mentioning that the blood index of the Persians examined by PARR was 1.17. These Persians probably came for the greater part from North Persia. Similarly the majority of the 165 Persians whose indices I measured came from a region that lies north of the 34th parallel, i.e. north of Isphahan.

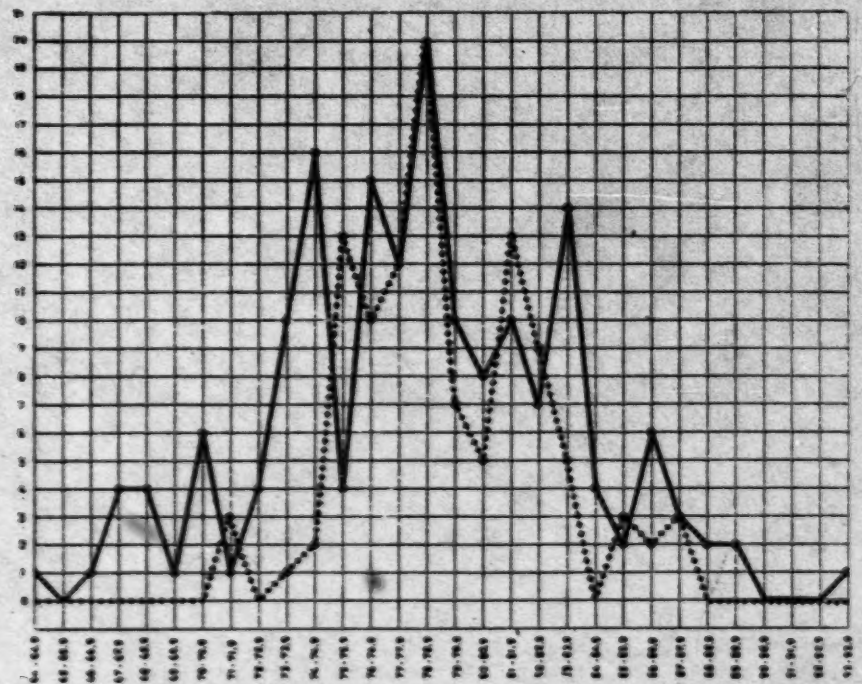

Fig. 40. Continous curve: cephalic indices of 162 Persians from N. Persia chiefly. Crossed curve: cephalic indices of 106 Kurds, measured by the author.

Of the 165 Persians enlisted in my dossier, 9 males and 41 females